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THE

# MARYLAND



# FARMER:

DEVOTED TO  
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,

LIVE STOCK  
and RURAL ECONOMY.

Vol. XX. BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER 1883. No. 11.

1798—Marshall P. Wilder, —1883.

CELEBRATION OF HIS 85TH BIRTHDAY,

BY A BANQUET AT THE PARKER HOUSE,  
BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 22, 1883.

100 guests assembled to do honor to the great pomologist and venerated citizen. The company consisted of the merchants, horticulturists, literary men and capitalists of the Athens of America. After an eloquent eulogium by Hon. C. H. Breck, upon the venerable gentleman whose 85th birthday they then celebrated, the *Mass. Ploughman* says:

"Col. Wilder received the warmest of welcomes as he arose to respond. He spoke in a slow, tremulous voice, and his eyes were suffused with tears. The following was his language: My friends: Language is too feeble to express the gratitude I feel for this too generous ovation with which you are crowning this anniversary of my birth. And, Mr. President, could I believe that I am worthy of the praise which you have so kindly bestowed upon me, I should feel that my mission on earth was nearly ended, and that I was about ready to be gathered to my fathers, like a shock of corn, fully ripe in its season. [Applause.] But no, no; and although I am somewhat advanced in years, I do not feel that my work is done; no, no; I have something more to do before I go home for those great interests for which I have given so much of my life. You have alluded to me and my connection with various institutions and callings, and I thank you for remembering me as an old merchant of Boston, for it is from this calling that I have derived the means to aid these interests.

Yes, I am an old merchant; I have been constantly in business for nearly three score years in this city, and I beg to assure you, my friends, that there is no title that I prize more highly than that of being called an upright, intelligent and enterprising merchant of Boston. [Applause.] It is our good fortune, my friends, to live in an age of remarkable progress and activity; in a nation whose growth, prosperity and power are the wonder and admiration of the world. Much of this progress I have witnessed in my own day. At the time of my birth the population of this nation was only about 5,000,000; now it is more than 50,000,000. When I came to this city there was not a mile of rail-road on this continent; now there are 120,000 miles. Mr. President, you have referred to me in connection with those great industrial interests, on which depend, more than any other the prosperity and happiness of the world. It is true I have done something for these, believing that I could do nothing better for my fellow-men. At the time of my birth there were not half a dozen agricultural, and for nearly a quarter of a century afterward not a horticultural society in our land. Now there are more than 1,500 of these and similar associations recorded in the department of agriculture at Washington. Then the products of our soil were not deemed worthy of a place in the statistics of our nation; now we produce more than two billion bushels of grain, with a constant reserve sufficient to supply the deficiency of the old world. When I came to this city, no steamship had ever reached our shores; now there is not a day in the year when many of them do not enter or depart from our ports. But I need not prolong this strain of remarks. Suffice it to say, that, in science, art and civilization and everything that pertains to the comfort and

happiness of mankind, the present age is transcendently superior to any that has preceded it. When I review the past history of our country and look forward to its future greatness and glory, my soul yearns for another four score and five years, that I might see its 200,000,000 of happy, free-men, rejoicing in the blessings of liberty, peace and union—all united in one great circle of life and love—one in interest, one in destiny, one in a glorious Union, never to be broken. [Applause.]

"A union of lakes and a union of lands,  
A union that none can sever;  
A union of hearts and a union of hands,  
Around the flag of our Union forever."

And now, my friends, in closing these remarks, permit me again to say I thank you from the bottom of my heart, for this kind demonstration of your friendship and regard. May the choicest of Heaven's blessings descend and rest on you through life, and then we shall have passed over to that better land not far away, if any of you shall come where I am you will be received with open arms and a thankful heart, for the honors conferred on me to-day. [Great applause.]"

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Houseless, Homeless Plow,

A SAD TALE OF WANT AND NEGLECT,

BY JOHN M. STAHL.

Standing all alone and unprotected in the corner of the Virginia rail fence, tenderly screened from the touch of zephyrs by burdocks and cockleburrs, bidding defiance to frost and snow, drouth and rain, wearing a reconciled yet woe begone expression, is the breaking plow that first stirred the ground for oats, then for corn, then for fall wheat, and is now doomed to a houseless, homeless super-annuated relation for six months or more. The frosts may nip the blossoms of earth and the fingers and toes of men; the snow may fall like a blanket and be whirled into a drift over it; the ice may lock fast the murmuring streams; the winds may come howling from the region of ice bergs, and through all and submitting to all that lone and unprotected plow must rear its bare handles towards the zenith in mute and despairing supplication.

Don't you pity it? Better pity the man that left it there the more. Exposure will weaken its joints and rack its whole system and he will have the physician's bill to pay. That plow rooted through many an acre and was but little the worse for wear and tear. But next spring will find it in a sad condition. Rust damages more than wear; rot destroys faster than use. A plow protected from the weather when not in use will last thrice as long as one left in the fence corner. The loss from damage done by the elements falls upon the careless, improvident farmer. By his negligence he is compelled to buy two plows which a shelter would have saved.

A shelter need cost but little. To exclude sun and rain is all that is required. A few boards or some straw will do this. But before that plow is put under shelter it should be cleansed of all mud, both steel and wood parts. Then coat the wood work with paint, and the steel parts with coal oil or tallow to prevent rusting.

What is true of this plow is true of all other farming implements. Rust and rot damage more than use. Protect them from sun and rain, harrows, drills, rakes, stalk cutters, reapers and mowers will last for years. And while they last they will do better work. It is impossible to do good work with rusty tools. Nor will sheltered tools be so liable to break as those exposed.

Now is the season to shelter your farm machinery. Do it.

THE LARGEST YIELD OF WHEAT YET REPORTED.—Mr. William A. Durham, of the Buckwheat Patch, Marshall's District, Harford Co. Md., has threshed and sold the wheat from six acres. The yield being 312 measured bushels, or 52 bushels to the acre. By weight, as it is generally sold, he had at the rate of 54 bushels and 27 lbs., or nearly 54½ bushels to the acre. The variety was Fuitz.

MEN of all ages who suffer from low spirits, nervous debility and premature decay, may have life, health and vigor renewed by the use of the Marston Bolus treatment, without stomach medication. Consultation free. Send for descriptive treatise MARSTON REMEDY Co. 46 West 14th Street, N. Y. \*

### "BUCHU-PAIBA."

Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and urinary Diseases. \$1. Druggists.



## Farm Work for November.

The work of the year is closed so far as crop-growing and seeding for crops for another year are concerned, but much requires the time and attention of the farmer at the present moment. Corn is to be husked and "lofted." To facilitate this work, it is well to pull off a good quantity, and store in a barn, to be husked in rainy weather, and the shucks saved for sale after being baled, or to be cut up fine and fed to cattle or mules with meal, after being steamed or wetted with warm water. As fast as the corn is husked, the stalk fodder from two or more heaps should be put together and compactly tied at the top, to be hauled hereafter to the feeding places of the stock. Get together convenient to the feeding places, enough provender to supply at least for a month the stock, when the weather will not admit of teams drawing from the field.

**Shelters.**—Comfortable shelters should now be provided for sheep, young colts and calves, hogs, &c. If possible they should be in lots where running streams are accessible or water can conveniently be supplied. Have a constant supply of pure water in troughs in the barn yard. It is poor economy to drive cattle to water or have them travel a distance to a frozen branch, over a frozen, uneven road or one that is slippery from ice or fetlock deep in mud.

**Fuel.**—Get together a large supply of firewood, and all the coal you contemplate using during the coming winter. See that an ample supply of kindling wood and other wood is put under a wood-shed for use when it is snowy or rainy. Look well to the tobacco barns, that the doors and windows are opened on all bright days, and closed tight when damp, or high winds prevail.

### Gearing, Farm Implements, &c.

Examine these and have all put in perfect order, oiled and placed under cover to be secure from the influences of the weather. Nothing on a farm is so wasteful and shows such bad management as farm implements left out of doors, or in the fields where they were last used.

### Apples and Cider.

Gather your apples carefully and assort and put away in barrels for winter, and make up your cider, after you procure a good cider mill and a lot of clean nice barrels. Both apples and good cider will command a high price this year. There is a scarcity of apples in the United States this year. They will be worth taking care of, for the demand yearly increases, and this year being an "off-year," the supply is not in proportion to the market demands.

### Fences and Gates.

Repair these and provide the material for new ones. *Never have bars*, they are happily now out of fashion.

### Draining.

If you have the time to spare, it is a nice time to drain your wet lands and open ditches where wanted and build blind drains.

### Ploughing Stiff Lands.

If you have any stiff, clay lands, intended for crop next year, drain the same well, and plow deep, turning the furrows over not too flat.—Take time, use three horses or four oxen to a plow, and do the work well, so that the snows and frosts of winter may do their work well in disintegrating and dividing the clods into fine particles and depositing soda, and other qualities needed by growing plants along with nitrogen from the atmosphere which is its great storehouse. By this course you also fully aerate the soil which is known to be all important.

### Storing Roots.

All roots that still remain in the ground should now be well stored in cellars or pits for winter use. Potatoes should be dug and assorted, and those intended for sale sent to market at once, for they lose much in bulk and weight, like corn, by being kept over, and may sustain much damage from the rot, or from many other causes. Owing to the enormous crop of potatoes made this year prices will rule low, but there is no probability that they will increase during next year; certainly not rise so much as to cover loss in weight and from other causes by keeping the crop over.

### Fattening Hogs.

As soon as the mast is well over put up your hogs to fatten. This animal, like most, takes on fat more readily in mild weather than in cold. Provide a warm, covered pen, kept clean, and well bedded with dry straw or leaves; feed plentifully with a variety of food, but never give more at a time than they will eat clean. Feed Indian corn whole or chopped, as the principal food, with roots, fruit, or small grain boiled or soaked. Let them have access at all times to pure water; season their food with salt, and provide them charcoal and rotten wood. Occasionally give them a little sulphur in the mashes, and let each pen be provided with an outer one in which they can exercise and amuse themselves by turning over the roots, tussocks and manurial materials that should be supplied in large quantities. By this arrangement these outer pens

will receive all their excrements, and the materials placed there will be converted into a rich mass of valuable manure. Do not forget that hog-manure is very rich in nitrogen and the phosphates, and the farmer should strive to receive as much of it as he can and make the hog a co-laborer in preparing the best compost manure that can be made.

#### Live Stock of all Kinds.

*Milch Cows.*—These should be well fed now that the pastures are drying up and the grass affected by frost. Give them green provender roots or pumpkins, and commence with once or twice a day to each, a bucket of gruel made of warm water, two quarts of bran or ship-stuff, a little salt and a pint or less of cotton-seed meal.

This gruel or mixture is all important to such cows as are intended for the winter dairy. Provide all cattle with clean, warm shelters or close stabling, giving them the opportunity to exercise in all proper weather, in large yards or small lots near the stables.

*Young Cattle.*—Give them comfortable shelters, warm beds and a full supply of good food, so that they shall continue to grow and thrive. A young animal once stunted by ill treatment or poor feeding never thrives so well afterwards, with even extravagant keeping. Keep them all the time growing.

*Working Animals.*—Keep these well, and let them have salt as they want it, or at least twice a week, with pure water in plenty and a full supply daily of good hay or other provender. The feed should twice a day, be at least, half a bushel of cut hay, softened with water and well sprinkled over with meal, corn and cob meal coarsely ground; this is an admirable food. It is admitted by all observers that corn and cob ground together is the best way that corn can be fed economically and to the best advantage to cattle, old, young, milch cows or working oxen.

#### Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.—\*

#### Garden Work for November.

But little work can be done in the garden proper this month, except a general cleaning up and trenching the stiff clay soils, and manure spreading, mulching such vegetables and plants as require protection from severe cold.

*Cabbages*—Take up and store these away.

*Turnips, Beets, Carrots, &c.*, should now be taken up and left for a few hours to dry off, and then carefully stored in a moderately cool cellar, or in pits protected by a foot of straw or coarse litter, and over this put earth from 8 to 12 inches deep; pat the same smooth with the hoe or spade and let the mound be somewhat conical in shape to turn the water. If the weather prove very severe throw over the pits corn fodder or other covering.

*Lettuce Plants.*—Such as are in frames should have air admitted to them in mild or moderate weather.

*Cauliflower and Brocoli*—Break down the leaves of these over the flowers to protect them.

*Endive and Celery.*—Continue to blanch the former and earth up the latter.

*Spinach.*—Keep free from weeds, and if the plants require thinning, draw those that crowd the others, leaving the finest to stand apart about 4 inches.

*Asparagus Beds.*—Let these be cleaned off and well dressed with a coat of half rotted manure, if it has not already been done.

*Gooseberries and Currants, &c.*—Cuttings of these can be set out during this month.

*Raspberries.*—Weather permitting, new plantations may be set out this month.

*Kale, and also Corn Salad.*—May be sown this month, and rolled or trod by feet and covered with open brush.

♦♦♦  
**CARP IN A POND.**—Some eighteen months ago about two dozen small carp were placed in the ice pond of Mrs. S. D. Higgins, near Rockville, Md., and not having been seen since that time it was supposed that they had failed to propagate, but on Wednesday last in cleaning out the pond it was found to be literally alive with fish, some of them eighteen inches long and weighing three pounds. The pond is about one-third of an acre and averages four feet in depth. This is another evidence of the ease with which carp may be raised by those having facilities for the construction of a pond.



### Soil Analysis.

There are plenty of methods for analyzing soil to be found in the chemistries, but none of them sufficiently simple and convenient for the average farmer, even if he had the necessary appliances. In fact there is no cheap and easy way of analyzing the soil. To have it done costs from \$5. to \$25. for each operation, and requires a skilled chemist to do it. Unfortunately, too, soil analysis, when performed, is practically useless, for it shows not what there is of plant food available, but what there is altogether, and this is only in the identical particle analyzed. And if the food be not available, it might as well be elsewhere.

The real and practical method of telling what a soil needs is to give different sorts of fertilizers to different strips. On one strip put bone dust or superphosphate, at the rate of 400 pounds to the acre. If an unusual vigorous growth results, the land wanted phosphoric acid. On another strip put wood ashes, at the rate of 20 bushels of unleached ashes to the acre. If good results follow, the land wanted potash. On another spot put nitrate of soda, 300 lbs. to the acre, or sulphate of ammonia, 200 pounds to the acre; or a good dressing of barn-yard manure. If the result is satisfactory, the land wanted nitrogen.

These three—nitrogen, phosphoric acid potash—are all the chemical ingredients of the soil that the farmer need care about, and in this simple and profitable way he may obtain what is, in effect, the best analysis of his soil that can be procured. Of course the needs of the different plants for different quantities of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash should be taken into account. The experiment should be carried on in three divisions, after this manner: With a plant requiring potash, such as the potato, a strip of land under all three kinds of fertilizers; with a phosphatic plant, such as wheat, three strips; and with a nitrogen plant, such as clover and peas, three strips. This being done, you have secured an accurate knowledge of the need of the field experimented upon.—*Texas State Farmer.*

"I buy Dr. Benson's Celery and Chamomile Pills and introduce them wherever I go. Personal knowledge and experience of their effects on others prompts this act." Rev. J. P. Fugett, Rector St. Lukes Ch. Myersburg, Pa. 50 cents at druggists.

### Machinery In Farming.

The census brings out with striking distinctness the value of improved machinery and implements as assistants to the farmer in raising crops. Every body knows that the old, ineffective implements have gone out of fashion; but everybody does not comprehend how much produce one intelligent and expert hand may raise with the aid of effective machines.

There are parts of this country, chiefly in the South, where improved implements are introduced very slowly; indeed, there are vast agricultural districts where the effective modern machinery is never used—and the result is what we might naturally expect—the very smallest product to the hand. In South Carolina there are 294,000 persons engaged in agriculture; there are \$3,000,000 worth of farm machinery and implements used, and the whole farm products of 1879, was \$42,000,000. The value of machinery and implements used was about \$11 per hand, and the product was \$142 per hand. Now compare this with Illinois, where extensive farming with effective machinery is conducted so as to secure the largest possible return. The number of persons engaged in farming is 436,000; value of implements and machinery used, \$33,739,000; whole farm product, \$204,000,000; or \$79 worth of machinery to the hand, and a product of \$468 to the hand. So that with the aid of seven times as much machinery, a man in Illinois makes three times as much product as a man in South Carolina. Kentucky, with 320,000 persons engaged in agriculture, uses \$9,700,000 worth of machinery and implements (\$30 to the hand), and makes a production of \$63,800,000, or \$200 to the hand; while Iowa, which uses three times as much machinery and implements (\$96 to the hand), secures twice as large a product, \$447 to the hand. Alabama uses \$10 worth of machinery and implements to the hand and makes a product of \$149 to the hand, while California uses \$115 worth of machinery and implements to the hand, and produces \$817 to the hand. We call Missouri a good farming state, and there are parts of it, certainly, where the most effective methods of agriculture are followed; but we use only \$51 worth of machinery and implements to the hand, and produce only \$270 worth to the hand—figures which are

far below those furnished by Illinois and Iowa. Kansas, with only two-thirds as many persons employed in agriculture, as Kentucky, makes a product only one-tenth less, because it uses twice as much machinery. As a rule, where the largest amount of machinery and implements are used, there we find the largest product to the hand. The merit of improved machinery is that it enables one man to make twice as large a crop as he could with rude implements—and this is the secret of the marvelous growth of the Northwestern states in wealth.—*St. Louis Republican.*

### The Use of Salt.

We have received from a correspondent a letter making some inquiries into the use of salt, and we are given to understand that among other follies of the day some indiscreet persons are objecting to the use of salt, and propose to do without it. Nothing could be more absurd. Common salt is the most widely distributed substance in the body; it exists in every fluid and in every solid, and not only is everywhere present, but in almost every part it constitutes the largest portion of the ash when any tissue is burned. In particular, it is a constant constituent of the blood, and it maintains it in a proportion that is almost wholly independent of the quantity that is consumed with the food. The blood will take up so much and no more, however much we may take with our food, and, on the other hand, if none be given, the blood parts with its natural quantity slowly and unwillingly. Under ordinary circumstances a healthy man loses daily about twelve grains by one channel or the other, and if he is to maintain his health that quantity is to be introduced. Common salt is of immense importance in the processes ministering to the nutrition of the body, for not only is it the chief salt in the gastric juice, and essential for the formation of bile, and may hence be reasonably regarded as of high value in digestion, but it is an important agent in promoting the process of diffusion and therefore of absorption. Direct experiment has shown that it promotes the decomposition of albumen in the body, acting probably by increasing the activity of the transmission of fluids from cell to cell. Nothing can demonstrate its value better

than the fact that if albumen without salt is introduced into the intestines of an animal no portion of it is absorbed, while it all quickly disappears if salt be added. If any further evidence were required it could be found in the powerful instinct which impels animals to obtain salt. Buffaloes will travel for miles to reach a "salt lick;" and the value of salt in improving the nutrition and the aspect of horses and cattle is well-known to every farmer. The conclusion, therefore, is obvious that salt, being wholesome, and indeed necessary, should be taken in moderate quantities, and that abstinence from it is likely to be injurious.—*London Lancet.*

### Fertilization of Seeds.

The *Bulletin* of May 12th of the N. Y. Agricultural Experiment Station, is interesting to seed growers and individual farmers, who desire to save pure seed. Dr. Sturtevant, the able director, after several experiments and observations, comes to the conclusion, that "in growing seed beans, we must have our one variety apart from others in order to secure seed certainly true to the variety. Where many varieties are grown together we should anticipate obtaining seed of hybrid origin, and which would depart to a greater or less extent from the normal variety. This fact seems to be substantiated by the frequent recurrence of sports in beans planted for crop; sports which were oftener noticed in garden than in field varieties.

The tomato grower, on the contrary, can grow many varieties upon the same plat, and he can expect to secure seed which shall remain true to name.

The grower of cabbage seed must use the greatest care to keep his varieties separated in growing, and it is probable that this necessity for crossing, and the mixing of varieties by the seed grower, account for the difficulty in obtaining cabbage seed which is sure to head, or which comes true to name in every case.

Pea vines of different sorts can be grown in adjoining rows and there is a great probability that the seed gathered will come true in every case. In our varieties last year we noted little indications of sporting, and every seed sown seemed to come true to name."



**Why Some Farmers Do Not Succeed.**

The *Southern Farmer's Monthly* gives the following reasons why some farmers do not succeed :

They are not active and industrious.  
 They are slothful in everything.  
 They do not keep up with improvements.  
 They are wedded to old methods.  
 They give no attention to details.  
 They think small things are unimportant.  
 They take no pleasure in their work.  
 They regard labor as a misfortune.  
 They weigh and measure stingily.  
 They are wasteful and improvident.  
 They let their gates sag and fall down.  
 They let their fowls roost in the trees.  
 They have no shelter for stock.  
 They do not curry their horses.  
 They leave their plows in the field.  
 They hang their harness in the dust.  
 They put off greasing the wagon.  
 They starve the calf and milk the cow.  
 They don't know the best is the cheapest.  
 They have no method or system.  
 They see no good in a new thing.  
 They never use paint on a farm.  
 They prop the barn door with a rail.

**Rye For Grain and Straw.**

The culture of rye for grain and straw is gradually on the increase. In 1870 the yield in the United States was about 17,000,000 bushels. In 1880 the total production was 24,540,829 bushels, valued at \$18,564,560. The demand for the straw by paper manufacturers is now greater than ever before, especially in Pennsylvania, where it is grown in the largest quantities for this purpose. Its extensive culture is largely due to the German element in the population of this state. The Germans proper, who are the best posted on rye culture, say that it may be cut at short intervals during the summer succeeding the fall sowing of it, and then mature a crop of seed the season following. In this case care must be taken to cut it in its young and succulent state, so as to keep it in vigor. A top dressing of raw bone meal, gypsum or wood ashes would be highly beneficial at each cutting.—*Ex.*

**Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.**

Infallible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation. 25.

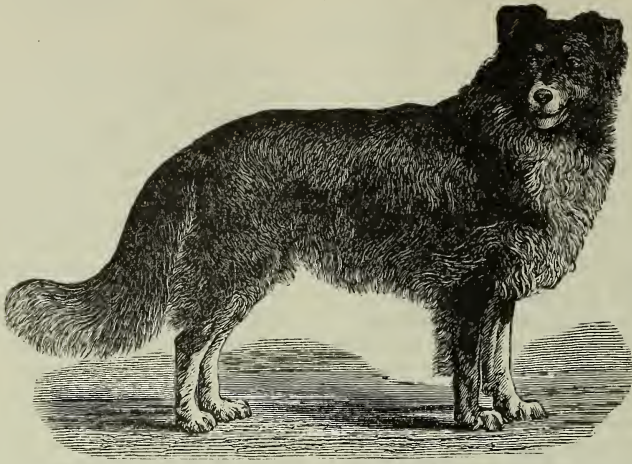
**Ensilage,**

NOT FOR GRASS AND CLOVER.

LEGITIMATE criticism and objection help to reach the truth of any matter in question. But it is a waste of time and labor to set up a man of straw for the purpose of knocking it down and gaining a victory in that way. It is something like this to Object to the practice of ensilage, because it cannot be applied profitably to the preservation of grass and clover. No one in America has ever seriously proposed such a thing. It has been proposed in England, and with very great propriety, for in that moist, unpleasant climate it is sometimes the case that six weeks is consumed in getting in a crop of hay, and when it is at last secured, it is next to worthless, and so damp that the stacks are in danger of spontaneous combustion; and to prevent this result, costly and bothersome machinery has been devised and is actually in use. Now, if ensilage could ever be consistently applied to saving grass, it is in such an extreme case as this. Here the sanity of any man might well be questioned who would ensilo grass and clover, when the difficulty is to avoid too much drying in the curing; and when one writes seriously against ensilage from this point of view, and makes out strings of figures to prove his assumed case, he sets up a straw man merely to "knock him out" in ten minutes. The truth is, ensilage is of value; beyond a doubt, for preserving, in a succulent condition, such crops as, when dried, become hard, strawy, and woody. Rye cut for fodder, and fodder corn, and perhaps millet, when grown upon rich soil and large and strong in the stem, are the crops that may be well preserved in this way. And if there is some loss of starch or sugar, there is a larger gain in the absence of the hard, woody fibre and the waste in consumption which is unavoidable in feeding dried fodder corn. If those who object to ensilage will confine themselves to corn and rye, and show that it is better to cure these dry than to cure them green and succulent in the silo, they will help their case and find a real antagonist to contend with, and not a harmless one of their own making.—*The Dairy.*

**"Rough on Corns."**

Ask for Well's "Rough on Corns." 15c. Quick, complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.



"REX," the property of JAMES LINDSAY, Communipaw Avenue,  
Jersey City, N. J.

We are enabled to give a good portrait of this famous Collie dog, and consider it a true type of this useful shepherd canine,—we are glad to see are becoming among our sheep-breeders to be looked upon as indispensable in sheep rearing successfully. "Rex" was whelped on 1st of March, 1879, and has a rich pedigree, possessing the combined blood of "Carlyle" and "Trefoil," and a progeny that reflects the highest praise upon him. "Rex" is black, tan and white, nicely marked,—a white breast, partly white legs, tag on tail and a little on nose. He is of good size, with noble carriage, a long, intelligent head, and a magnificent long, heavy coat and frill. He has been the winner of first prizes in many dog trials and shows in this country and in Canada, while he has secured many second prizes also, since his first appearance in the ring in 1880.

PROF. SAMUEL JOHNSON, of the Michigan State Agricultural College, is a strong advocate of the use of ensilage. He claims that ensilage is to become the cheap substitute for roots in feeding cattle through the winter, when some succulent food is so desirable. In his opinion he is sustained by many who studied this subject carefully.

#### Uses of Fish Ponds.

A correspondent of the *Indiana Farmer* has the following to say on fish ponds: "I feed the carp potatoes boiled with skins on, mash them and place it about in bunches in the shallow part of the pond or along the edge; they seem to like it. I take all my ice from the pond, and we have scores of fine frogs, whose hams make as palatable a dish of rich food as can be in the meat kind. The frogs are not large, nor should they be; a medium-sized one is best. An old green back, such as are caught in the bogs and sloughs, has too much the flavor of a mud snapping turtle; younger frogs have not this odor. So we have fish, frogs and ice all from the same pond; and the pond itself is fixed up so as not only to be useful, but it is an ornament, and also an attraction to birds."

—SIR HENRY THOMPSON, the London surgeon, recognizes in fish a combination of all the elements of food that the human body requires in almost every phase of life, more especially by those who follow sedentary employment. To women he considers fish to be an invaluable article of diet, but he scouts as a complete fallacy the notion that fish eating increases the brain power. "The only action fish had on the brain was to put a man's body into proper relations with the work he had to do."



## HORTICULTURAL.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Parlor Plants and Flowers in the Winter.

There is nothing that so adorns and beautifies the home in winter-time as plants and flowers, and if we would enjoy them then we must begin preparations now. Beside the charm they lend to home-life in winter, in contrast with the leafless, shrubby out of doors, they are all the dearer for the care they demand at our hands, and without care we need not hope for success with them.

One or two things the amateur flower culturist should bear in mind viz: not to undertake too much, and not to kill what plants he has with kindness. Too much heat, too much water or too much light are quite as detrimental as too little. Excessive heat causes a rapid, spindling, feeble growth and we pity the pale flowers much more than we enjoy them. A temperature of 40 or 45 degrees at night, and of 55 or 60 degrees during the day is about what plants require.

Some people actually drown their plants and then wonder why they die. House plants, except lilies, must be watered judiciously, and especially so, if they have been recently cut back. The less water at such a time the better. If there is a good drainage, and the soil is kept loose by frequent stirring of its surface, the plants may be watered more freely.

A rich sandy loam or leaf-mold is the best soil for potted plants in general, but a scanty diet, in the shape of fertilizers, is better for them than "a full meal." As it is difficult to keep the parlor or sitting-room at a proper temperature continually, those plants which can stand a high temperature and dry atmosphere are the safest to cultivate in-doors. For the benefit of those who may not have had much experience in flower culture for the parlor, we will name some of the plants which prove most successful for this purpose. The cacti, heliotropes, geraniums, or more properly, pelergoniums, fuchias, hyacinths, chrysanthemums, bouvardias, camellias, callas, abutilons, wax-plants, foliage plants of numerous varieties, oxalis, smilax, ivies and so on to the end of the list. A "happy combination" of any or all of these will not fail to please.

Like everything else, plants and flowers have their peculiar enemies, some of which are so exceedingly minute as to escape detection by the naked eye, and what is more pitiable than a poor, insect-infected plant or flower struggling for life, as it were, against thousands of these minute pests. The verbenas, mites, red spiders, aphides or plant lice, thrips, mealy bugs, &c., all come under the heading of enemies to plant growth. With these the florist must wage unrelenting war. Fumigation with tobacco smoke, syringing with tobacco water, or whale oil soap, and washing with soap suds are the most effectual remedies for these insects when once they are present, but here again "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." By careful watching for the first appearance of many plant insects, their increase may be avoided. If the atmosphere is too moist the aphid will appear, and if too dry look out for the red spider. Sometimes small white worms in the soil are very troublesome, but these may be gotten rid of by applying lime water to the soil. Slake a piece of lime the size of a tea cup in a pail of water, allow it to settle and use only the clear water; this will not only destroy the worms but be beneficial to the plants. Constant vigilance is the price of fine flowers.

A word on house-plants and health. There is an old foggyish prejudice against them of which some find it difficult to rid their minds, yet the fact is they are conducive to health. The atmosphere of the room is often too dry and hot, but a few healthy, vigorous growing plants will moisten it quite perceptibly, and it is said that the ozone of the perfumes acts beneficial on the malarial diseases, and tends to prevent fevers, while certain throat and lung difficulties have been materially benefitted by an atmosphere "moistened by the breath of plants."

J. W. DARROW.

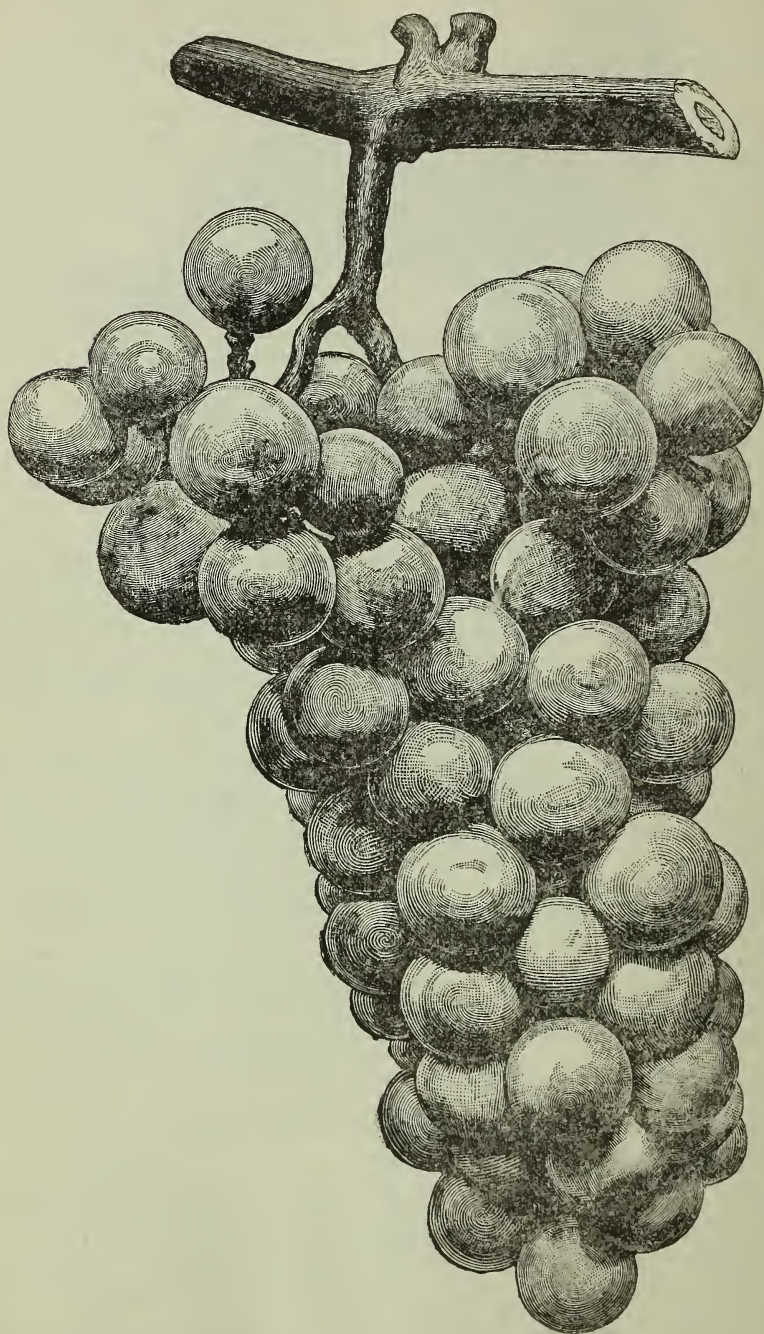
Chatham, N. Y.

FULLER, in his *Small Fruit Culturist*, says: "I do not believe that there is one acre of strawberries in a thousand, cultivated in this country that yields over one-half what it would if the ground was properly prepared before planting."

### Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.

Infallible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for fever, sickness, restlessness, worms, constipation, 25c





The New White Grape, "Francis B. Hayes."

This new white grape is out of the same lot of seedlings as the "Moore's Early," which were grown and the best of the lot introduced by Messrs. John B. Moore & Son, Concord, Mass. The "Francis B. Hayes," named for the President of the Mass. Horticultural Society, fruited in 1872 and exhibited in 1874, since when it has been shown to the above named society, and to the U. S. Pomological, both of whom speak of it most favorably, endorsing it as of "first quality and very early." The prominent characteristics of this grape are are said to be its great *hardiness*, *earliness*, and delicious *flavor*. It will be put on the market for sale next spring. The originators of this grape, say of it:

"The leaves remain green on the vines until late in the fall, long after the first frost, and after those of other varieties have dropped, showing at once a constitution not easily affected by cold, and assuring the ripening of both fruit and wood, no matter how late the season.

DESCRIPTION.—Bunch, medium to large moderately compact, partly shouldered. Berry, medium, globular. Color, greenish white, changing to a fine amber-yellow, when fully ripe; skin very firm. Flesh, tender, juicy, and of a delicate texture, and fine flavor, no foxiness.

Foliage healthy, thick, and free from disease. Vine vigorous, and very hardy. A prolific bearer. Ripens from seven to ten days before Concord."

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For the Maryland Farmer.

### Peaches and Peach Trees.

BY D. Z. EVANS, JR.

[Concluded from Page 332.]

#### PREPARATION OF THE GROUND.

In planting any kind of fruit trees whatever it invariably pays well to put the soil in thorough condition preparatory to planting. This must be done not merely to a profitable orchard in the future, but to induce the trees to make a good, healthy growth the first season, for a tree which is stunted the first year of growth is a long time in entirely recovering, some of them never entirely recovering. If the ground

cannot be gotten into the best possible condition the first year it is desired to plant out the orchard, it would be far better to leave the planting until another year than to attempt to set them out in poorly prepared ground. There are some few, and very few, too, persons who have had a fair success in planting in sod, but to off-set this there are a whole host of failures, so that we would not recommend commencing a peach orchard by planting in sod. Our plan has been, and will be, to have the piece intended for the peach orchard cultivated well for one or two years before planting out the trees. This makes the soil loose, mellow and well broken up, and destroys weeds and grass nicely.

Owing to the uncertain character of our winters, it is not always advisable to set out the trees in the fall, a very severe winter, without much snow, and a variable one, of alternate mild and severe weather, being equally injurious or destructive to the young trees not yet rooted in the ground. If the trees are planted in the fall, as late as can be done before the ground freezes, the land, just cleared of corn, can be merely run out seventeen or eighteen feet apart each way, using a two horse plow, plowing four furrows to gather, harrowing this down and then opening a furrow, in the middle of this plowed piece, with a good one horse plow. If the trees are planted in the spring, just as soon as the land can safely be plowed, it should be well broken up with a two horse plow, after which harrow well and strike off space as before. When planted in the fall, in the spring the intervening spaces can be plowed well, at the usual time for the spring plowing, and this newly plowed ground will be in good condition for such cultivated crops as is desired to be grown between the trees. We do not think there is anything in sub-soiling, unless it be plenty of hard, expensive work, as far as peach trees are concerned, for it may be taken for granted that land which requires it, is not as a rule, suitable for the successful and profitable growth of the peach. Those who wish to try the virtues of sub-soil plowing can do so, but the results will seldom, if ever, pay for the trouble and expense incurred. This is especially true where the sub-soil plowing consists in bringing up more or less of the clayey, heavy and cold sub-soil to the surface. We believe in plowing moderately



deep, but when you go deeper than has been done for many years, let it be but an inch or so at a time, and then, whenever it can be so done, done in the late fall, so the heavy, freezing weather of the entire winter can act on it fully, going far towards disintegrating it and rendering it fit to help to sustain plant life of different kinds. A heavy coat of good, hot stable manure, spread on this clayey covering will go far towards helping in the process of disintegration, at the same time will enrich the soil finely for whatever may be planted in the piece, between the trees, the following year. We do not advise doing this—applying the hot manure and bringing up an inch or so of the sub-soil—after the trees are planted, but before they are set out,—the year previous.

#### THE PLANTING

is part of the programme which great care, much more, in fact, than is generally bestowed upon such work, for much of the success or failure of the trees, in growing, is due to the planting. The very first thing in order is to prune the roots of all broken or bruised pieces, and, doing the same with the head of the tree, also cutting back the head, so as to cause it to branch lower and fuller and to prevent the winds from having too much force on it until it has become well rooted in the soil. This having been done, and the ground having been fully and lately prepared, the trees are taken, well covered up with an old carpet or bagging, in a cart or wagon to some central place in the field, where there has already been taken a tub of water. This water is then admixed with soil until it becomes a thick mud, into which the roots of all the trees are immersed immediately before being taken out to be planted. This makes the soil adhere firmly to the roots and insures growth where many trees would, otherwise, die. A boy drops a tree at each intersection of the furrows and two men follow to do the planting, the boy dropping about as fast as two quick men can plant the trees. One man spreads the roots well in the hole, holds the tree in position and tramps the soil firmly around the roots while the other one shovels in the earth. In this way a large area can be set out in a very short time. One of the most important parts of planting is pressing the earth on and around the roots with the foot. Planters, "stick a pin" here, for experience will show you how

important our advice on this subject really is. When all the trees have been planted, run a ridge to each row of trees, from each side, of two one horse furrows on each side, to allow for settling and to prevent the trees from being unseated before the soil settles firmly around them, and in the process of all cultivation it will all work down as level as can be desired, for we do not, by any means, advocate keeping ridges around the trees.—Do not plant in deep holes, for many fine trees have been killed by planting too deep. They should not be planted any deeper in the field than they were in the nursery row, taking the *level* of the piece as a guide, the ridging up we recommend being merely a temporary matter. In planting in the fall, the ridging can be done at the time of planting and thus left until the following spring, when the piece can be plowed, either *across* the ridges to cut them down, or the same way, with the ridges, and cut down with the harrow to the proper level.

#### CULTIVATION AND MANURING.

The first year's cultivation consists in planting some hoed and cultivated crop, generally common field corn, as this insures the soil being well cultivated and at the same time gives the young and tender trees that measure of shade which they so much need during the first year of growth in the orchard. Garden vegetables, sweet corn &c., can also be planted, but there are but few persons who care to plant such a large area as an entire orchard in garden truck, and corn comes in to fill the bill nicely. By using a fair amount of manure or fertilizer, for the corn, the trees get all that they require to induce a sound, healthy growth. In cultivating, we are advocates of level culture, especially so in the orchard, hilling and ridging being undesirable and in many cases injurious, and we have carefully noted the success or failure of different orchards, and have found that very many trees die from too deep planting, or from being kept ridged up around the roots during the first years of the young orchard. It is not natural for trees to root deeply, especially fruit trees until they have grown so tall and large as to require the roots to go down far enough to "anchor" them safely, the small, fibrous roots always lying near the surface, where the rootlets can get the moisture, and manurial matter which is spread on the orchard.



The second year's cultivation can be either in corn, or else in some vegetables requiring constant cultivation and fair manuring, potatoes—the general crop—sweet corn, peas, beans &c., being all suitable. The piece should be well plowed with a one horse plow, or a two horse plow can do most of the work, using the one horse plow near the trees. Plow the double in the middle of the space, throwing the soil away from the trees, then hoe out the spaces carefully, after which throw a light furrow to the trees, on each side, and then harrow thoroughly *across* the way the piece has been plowed. This will level the soil nicely, and, if it is necessary, harrow a second time, running the harrow *with* the furrows. The piece can then be run out or opened to suit the crop or crops to be planted. Until the trees come into full bearing, the orchards should be thoroughly cultivated, and never think of *sowing* any kind of grain whatever in the orchard, at no time of its existence, unless it be when the orchard has out grown usefulness and profitableness, for it will surely do more injury than several crops of grain will repay. We have seen a number of very fine young orchards entirely ruined by cropping them with rye, wheat and oats. Those who try this experiment once, never essay to do it again, at least not on their own lands—a tenant might be tempted to do it, for spite or to serve his own selfish purposes, but not an owner who knows anything about fruit trees.

As to manuring we would urge planters to avoid the use of hot, violent and unfertilized manures, well decomposed stable manure, not to lavishly used, being the best, and especially so where there are other crops to take off some of the strength of the manure, still having enough to supply all the real needs of the trees. Some of our commercial fertilizers may be good for fruit trees, tho' we do not care to apply them when we can get others, for it seems that the trees require some elements which these fertilizers cannot or do not supply, prominent amongst which is, we think, vegetable matter. Too much manure is almost, if not quite, as bad as not enough, for it induces an undue growth of wood and foliage, which wood is frequently not thoroughly ripened before the advent of cold weather, and the frost injures or kills it, thus materially injuring the tree. This

is one of the troubles in trucking the orchard constantly, the large quantity of manure which the vegetables require to force them early and to a large size making the soil so rich as to induce an unhealthy growth of the trees. The trees generally look finely, but they seldom fruit and are very short lived at the best, under such a system of forcing. Ashes are most excellent for all kinds of fruit trees, but they are hard to get in quantity and rather expensive.

#### PRUNING THE PEACH.

The orchard pruning of the peach is not a very difficult or laborious operation, not near as much so as pruning occasional trees in the lawn or garden, for the simple reason that being planted in a body or orchard they seem to shape themselves up to about the proper standard, and about all that remains to be done, after they get of any size, being to remove interfering, broken or misshapen limbs, and to occasionally head in when necessary. The heads should be started rather low, with three to four main limbs, and all the shoots appearing below the head should be carefully cut off, not merely to prevent the tree from becoming misshapen, but to make close cultivation an easy matter. If the trees are not started right, it is a rather difficult matter to get them just where you want them, tho' it can be done.

#### WORMING

the trees, which is unusually commenced the second or third year they are in the orchard and continued yearly throughout their existence, is done, each spring and fall, by carefully removing the soil from around the base of the tree, and, then with a dull knife or piece of hoop iron, scraping off the gummy substance &c. which adheres to the base, and which shows the presence of the insect which feeds on the peach trees. When this is done, insert a small, flexible wire into the runs or leads made by the worms, and thus destroy them; or, carefully cut away the bark (which is dead) over the leads or runs made by the worms, carefully tracing him up, and, when he is found, destroy him, after which replace the soil and continue the hunt with the other trees in the orchard.—Never let boys do this work, as it is particular work, and a little carelessness will destroy more trees in a single day than will pay several men's wages. As a rule, old men—if ex-

perienced, will do this work best, and it is not at all hard work nor hurrying, tho' stooping may be rather hard for some whose backs have been bent too often. In doing this work we generally use a small piece of iron with a small, sharp hook on the end, and with this we open the leads and readily kill the insects without unnecessarily damaging the healthy, sound parts of the trees. This instrument is made of say  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch square iron, is about six or eight inches long, terminating in a sharp hook. We generally do the scraping necessary with the edge of this instrument, having it made a little longer than usually done to enable us to do so readily.

#### HANDLING THE FRUIT.

Those who have never been in the peach districts of Maryland and Delaware, during the peach shipping season, can imagine the bustle, confusion and work which a heavy crop of peaches entails upon all concerned. All is life and activity, and wagon after wagon delivers its load to the wharf or station, there to be at once loaded and forwarded to destination. There is no more perishable fruit than the peach, for to-day it is hard and not fit to eat and tomorrow morning it is in fine eating condition, and a few hours afterwards it is too soft to stand shipment, so that it must be handled carefully and quickly, and must reach the consumer within twenty-four or, at the furthest, thirty-six hours after being taken from the trees. Some trees ripen nearly or quite all of the fruit at once, while other trees ripen the fruit gradually, sometimes extending over a period of two weeks or more, so that the "peach pluck" must know which fruit to take and which to reject or leave for future gatherings. When the fruit is fully grown, well colored and leaves the stem readily, it may be taken for granted, as a rule, that it is fit to be gathered. It is carefully hand picked, into baskets, the picker merely (in large orchards), filling the baskets and carrying them where the wagon can haul them in, the same wagon which hauls in the fruit brings empty baskets for the picker.—This fruit then goes to a convenient shed, where a "peach sorter," a very useful machine, working with wooden or rubber covered rolls, sorts out the fruit into three different sizes, the party who attends to the "sorter" watching the fruit as it runs out and removing all specked ones

at once. The three sizes are kept in separate lots, are invoiced accordingly, and the "extras" are topped off with peach leaves, to show off their quality to a better advantage. There is quite an art in doing this work both quickly and neatly, requiring some little experience as well as natural taste.

By all means the varieties should be kept separate and not picked into or put in the same baskets, for the prices are much influenced thereby. In large orchards there is but little danger of having them thus mixed, but in small plantations, and where the planter has foolishly planted many varieties and but few trees of any variety, there would be so many different packages, if it was thus done, many of them only partially full, that they must be marketed together. Extra fine and large fruit packs better and arrive in better condition, as a rule, in baskets than in crates or boxes, and the crates are best for long shipments and for medium quality of fruit, the very large specimens not packing advantageously in crates.

As peaches ripen up over night, there is seldom, if ever, any necessity to ripen the fruit specially before shipping, the fruiters generally doing such work, with peaches at least, themselves, when found necessary. For special purposes, such as a demand from some party for a lot of extra fine, well ripened and highly colored fruit, for party, wedding or entertainment, it may be desirable to ripen up a lot to meet the special demand. This is done by picking the best ones to be found into the shallow baskets, handling fruit and baskets carefully. These are then carefully laid away, in a dark room, on blankets, leaving them uncovered, with plenty of air. Next morning the fruit will generally be in fair condition, when a few hours covered with a blanket will complete the process, when they should be carefully wrapped in fine paper, packed in shallow boxes, not more than two deep, these boxes put into a chest with handles, and thus shipped, not forgetting to make the bill in accordance with the quality of the fruit and the care and trouble expended upon it. It is seldom, if ever, that the *color* can be much heightened, in the peach, not nearly to the same extent that it is possible with the pear, but sometimes even a little is appreciated by buyers able and willing to pay for what pleases them.



## VARIETIES.

To judge from the descriptions in some of the nursery men's catalogues, we might suppose that every variety in the long list of peaches was desirable, and that it was sure to pay to growers to plant orchards of nearly every one of the varieties described. This not so much the case now as it was a few years ago, but still it is enough so to make it desirable to use caution. And right here we would say that beginners should make it a point to plant as few varieties as possible, a half dozen being better than a score or more. If it is desired to experiment, it will be found more profitable to have a small experimental orchard for the purpose, where a couple of trees of each to-be-tried variety is planted, and when it is found that any one or more varieties prove desirable, such can be planted largely in the orchard, and the others can have the "go."

Now a days there is more profit secured from the late varieties than from the early ones, especially so as they are better croppers, the fruit is finer and is more in demand (for family use) than the very early ones, so that there are many more late sorts than early sorts planted. The old, standard sorts, for general fruitage, should always be planted, the Early York, the Moore's Favorite, the Old Mixon, the White Heath, the Crawford's early and late, and a few others being found in almost all orchards, especially so in those which have been planted by experienced growers.

We hope that nurserymen will give their attention more to producing some new sorts of late peaches than to producing new early sorts, as there is a paying demand for such varieties, provided they are really desirable. As it would take too much space and time to give a full description of any considerable number of the varieties of the peach, we must defer such until a more opportune time, remarking, however, that it is well to plant largely of the old and well-tried sorts, and but sparingly of the new ones at first, to prevent loss as well as to insure profit.

MR. A. M. PURDY has whitewashed his fruit trees for thirty years, and closely observed the results, which have invariably been to make smoother bodies and healthier trees. He, therefore, designates the articles in some of his exchanges which oppose whitewashing as injurious to trees as "mere bosh."

For the Maryland Farmer.

## A Glimpse of California Orchards.

The fruit crop in California, as I learn from letters and reports of local papers mailed to me, has been unusually fine this year, but not as large as in some seasons. Decided advances have been made in the processes of caring for and marketing it, and unusual interest has been shown in the meetings of the State Horticultural Society a very prosperous and useful organization, which, in connection with the State Viticultural Association, has exerted an appreciable and salutary influence upon state legislation in many particulars. A few horticultural notes from one who has lived many years on the Pacific Coast may prove of interest, since many points in the practice of farmers and fruit growers there could safely be copied here, especially the use of irrigation in seasons of drought, and the introduction of some forage plants popular there, that might possibly endure the Maryland winter.

And, first, a few words as regards fruit, the chief industry of a large part of the Coast region. Companies and individuals are everywhere at work developing this great industry, and everywhere seeking new and profitable outlets for their fruit products. The demand for fruits to supply the canneries has a limit. The orchardists are working at the problem of canning fruit in the orchard; taking it in its ripe and luscious condition, and so preparing a better article than was ever before sent out from California.

Correspondents make continual inquiry about prices of fruit land in California. It is difficult to give an exact reply. Stories are abroad to the effect that \$6.00 to \$10.00 per acre has been paid for choice parcels, suitable to all the semi-tropic fruits and situated in the best localities. Indeed, even more than this has been paid; but in these cases society, and surroundings, climate scenery and similarly valuable ingredients of a charming homestead-site, caused the high prices. The finer of fruit land unimproved, but reasonably well located, ranges from \$15. to \$50. per acre, according to quality. Most of it is in the foot-hills, and hence well watered and timbered. Large tracts, suitable for vines, are still on the market, in parts of the state distant from San Francisco, and at prices ran-



ging from \$5. to \$10. per acre. Some Government land at \$1.25 and \$2.50 per acre is still to be obtained.

The southern counties of the state are taking a great start in the way of deciduous fruit culture and bid fair to become as famous for their cherries and plums as they now are for their apricots. Whenever water for irrigation is obtained, in these southern counties, the possibilities are beyond the limits of language to express. The soil is so deep and rich, the absence of frost or chilly winds so marked, the effect of climate and water upon vegetation so strong, and its consequent growth so luxuriant that no mere statistics are sufficient to recall the truth. Brown and seemingly withered is the vegetation on the hill-sides, while acres of irrigated soil of precisely the same character, fairly glow with exuberant trees and vines, —grapes at the rate of 16 or 18 tons to the acre, and the whole range of temperate and semi-tropic fruits thriving in one's door-yard. The best of southern California is decidedly the best of America, and royal are the homes that wealth and refinement are rearing there. It happens, too, that Southerners have been more attracted to that part of the state, and some of the best families of Virginia, Maryland, South Carolina, Louisiana, have prosperous fruit farms and gardens there.

The centre counties of California will always contain a larger population than the extreme northern or southern parts, and prove very attractive to strangers, though presenting many different aspects of coast, valley and mountain scenery, and differing greatly as regards their fruit capabilities. Impinging on the Bay of San Francisco and reaching northward to Mendocino, is one of the most prosperous parts of the state, the region in the limits of Sonoma county. Indeed it is, comparable as regards multiplicity of resources, with but one other county of California—Los Angeles. Among the smaller counties Alameda and Santa Clara also contiguous to the Bay of San Francisco, are likely to be nearly covered with orchards some of these days. The famous peach sections, however, are further inland, sheltered from the sea fogs, in Vaca and Pleasant Valley, near Marysville, and on the Sierra foothills in El Dorado, Placa and Nevada Counties.

To show the vicissitudes of fruit culture

in a new state, as also its romantic ride, a leaf from persistent G. W. Brigg's record should be read. This gentleman, in 1850, "planted a melon patch," I do not know how large, but suppose some 8 or 10 acres, and cleared \$20,000 in one year, selling the melons at the mining camps, where they retailed for one or two dollars a piece. He at once began to plant orchards and soon owned 1200 acres, in good bearing condition. The Brigg's peach orchard was famous about 1856-58, and enormous sums were realized. Debris from the hydraulic mines, or "slickens," as it is called gradually ruined this valuable property, from which \$40,000 or \$50,000 had been cleared in a single season. In 1869 he planted 2,000 acres of trees in one of the southern counties but not liking the locality, sold out and removed to Solano county near the Yolo boundary, where he planted orchards of deciduous fruits, and several hundred acres of raisin grapes. He has been very successful, and is planting extensively in Fresno county. Beyond a doubt he makes more raisins than any other grower in the state. The best raisins, however, that are produced here are those made by small growers, men who cultivate only five or ten or not more than twenty acres. The quality of the product often seems to be in inverse proportion to the size of the vineyard.

As regards varieties of raisin-grapes now used in California, the Muscat of Alexandria, the Flame Tokay, the Muscatelle and the Gordo Planco are all recommended, the latter two being probably the best in most cases. The seedless Sultana is used also for wine, but its chief use is for raisin-making. Mr. Blowers of Yolo, has grown seventeen tons of Sultanas to the acre, on six year old vines; on vines two years old from the cuttings, four tons per acre. These yields would be considered remarkable anywhere, and seems to show what good soil and scientific culture will do for the vine.

C. H. S.

Sept. 20th, 1883.

#### Peach Season of 1883.

This season has been profitable to the growers. Since canning has become so large a business, many of the best peaches do not appear in the markets as formerly. Consequently the markets do not reflect

the amount of peaches sold. As some evidence of the immensity of the product of this fruit we mention the fact that the Delaware Rail Road alone carried 3,000,000 baskets. Of this amount the canneries and evaporating concerns took over million of baskets. This fruit paid a higher price this year than ever before, owing to the superior quality and dryness. Last year but three pounds of evaporated fruit could be obtained from a basket, but during the present season the average was from 5½ to 6 pounds. The evaporators were, therefore, enabled to pay sixty cents per basket, and make a larger profit than when they paid only from twenty to thirty cents in 1882, and at the same time furnishing a better article.

Purchasers came this year from Chicago and Indianapolis. But few peaches were sold at the several home stations on rail road at less than sixty cents, and some of Reeve's Favorite brought \$1.50 per basket, and which were on several occasions sold as high as \$5.00 per basket in Boston. Here is encouragement to induce our farmers to plant choice peaches. There is money in the business. What cannot be sold can be canned or evaporated at home.

THERE is one strawberry which grows in the country meadows, sweet, wholesome, sugary, sour, delicate in its flavor, and wholly delightful. This strawberry plants itself and propagates itself, and continues from generation to generation, a good thing, asking no odds of anybody. It was of this strawberry that good old Isaac Walton declares: "Doubtless God could make a better berry, but he never did."

There is another strawberry, the hucksters' delight; oversized, so that a basket will not hold many; of forced growth, so that its juices are immature and tasteless; soft, spongy, sandy, and misshapen. This monster has monopolized our markets. This strawberry is a fraud. It is a strawberry dude. It is a proof that over cultivation is as disastrous as under cultivation.

For years past the strawberry has been growing in size, price and worthlessness. Is it impossible to retrace our steps and go back again to the little, sharp-pointed, deep-red berries that looked, when picked, as if the tips of a fairy's fingers had been served up for the breakfast of a mortal man?—*Philadelphia Record*.

#### Grape Growers Maxims.

1. Prepare the ground in fall; plant in spring.
2. Give the vine plenty of manure, old and well decomposed, for fresh manure excites the growth, but does not manure it.
3. Luxuriant growth does not insure fruit.
4. Dig deep and plant shallow.
5. Young vines produce beautiful fruit, but old vines produce the richest.
6. Prune in autumn to insure growth, but in spring to insure fruitfulness.
7. Plant your vines before you put up trellises.
8. Vines, like old soldiers, should have good arms.
9. Prune spurs to one developed bud, for the nearer the old wood the higher flavored the fruit.
10. Those who prune long must soon climb.
11. Vine leaves love the sun; the fruit, the shade.
12. Every leaf has a bud at the base, and either a branch or a tendril opposite it.
13. A tendril is an abortive fruit bunch—a bunch of fruit a productive tendril.—*Vine Dresser*.

#### Measure for Boxes.

A box 24 inches by 16 by 28, will contain one barrel or 10,752 cubic inches.

A box 16 inches by 16, 8 by 8 inches, will contain one bushel, or 2,150.4 cubic inches.

A box 8 inches by 8, by 4.2 inches, will contain one gallon, or 268.8 cubic inches.

A box 4 inches by 4 by 4.2 will contain one quart, or 67.2 cubic inches.

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# MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor.

COL. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, NOVEMBER 1st, 1883.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

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☞ COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia Maryland and Virginia.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

☞ Subscribe at once to the Maryland Farmer and get the cream of agricultural knowledge.

## To Our Patrons.

For twenty years we have published continuously each month, the MARYLAND FARMER, and it is very gratifying to be able to say that each year it has increased in circulation and we trust in general usefulness, until it to-day, is looked upon as one of the leading Agricultural Journals of the country. What makes it the more gratifying is that this success has been attained by its individual merits, entirely independent of agents to scour the country to obtain subscriptions and advertisements. What such efforts cost others we prefer to put into the intrinsic worth of our Journal, and thus present it to the public notice on its superior merits alone.

As this, the 20th. volume expires with our next issue, for December, we are sure our old subscribers will see the justice and propriety of renewing their subscriptions for 1884 and in doing so, settle all arrearages, if any, are due to us.

We do hope, as we have no travelling agents, that every old subscriber and every friend of the MARYLAND FARMER, will use his or her, influence to obtain for next year as many additional subscribers as possible. To prove our desire to extend agricultural knowledge, at the least possible cost, we will furnish our Monthly Journal next year, at the low price of \$1.00 per year, and give to each subscriber who pays before January '84, a nice premium, of one of either of the following books:

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
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Such premiums will reduce the price of the "MARYLAND FARMER" to almost nothing.

For our lady subscribers we have, if desired, that admirable treatise:—

*"Every Woman Her Own  
Flower Garden."*

 NOTE.—The three last numbers of the current year will be sent free to each New Subscriber before January 1st, 1884, if requested.

**Editorial Notes of a Northern Tour.**

WINTHROP, MAINE.

After a few days attendance at the New England Fair, (of which I gave an account last month), I left for the celebrated sea resort on the coast of Maine—"Old Orchard," where I rested pleasantly a few days at "Hotel Fiske," and from there went to Portland, Maine, where I paid my respects to the "Live Stock Journal," and called to see Gen. Mattocks, who happened to be out of the city at the time. The General is one of the many enterprising men of the state, and a large breeder of improved stock, collies and fine poultry. From Portland I went direct by rail to Winthrop. This town has an agricultural record not surpassed by any other in Maine. It was for many years the home of that learned excellent man, Dr. Holmes, the popular editor of the "Maine Farmer." I consider Dr. Holmes was of his day, the best educated agriculturist, and best informed upon all subjects connected with agriculture, of any one in the United States. His death was a greater loss to the farmers, than that of any person who ever lived in the state. J. W. Lang, the Live Stock Monthly for October, pays the following well-merited tribute to the memory of Dr. Holmes:—

"Dr. Ezekial Holmes, for a long time the able editor of the Maine Farmer, was a

man of whom the state is justly proud. If he had left no other monument or act to perpetuate his memory, the fact that he brought into his adopted town of Winthrop, two Jersey Animals and bred them there, laying the foundation of the present dairy herds not only of Winthrop and Kenebec, but of the state, would be one of which any man might be proud and desire, as a benefactor, looking down the ages and seeing the great good results that this planting will ensure."

Having had an intimate personal acquaintance with the doctor, I can duly appreciate the justice of these remarks.

Mr. N. R. Pike, Secretary of the Jersey Herd Book Association, resides in Winthrop, in which place there are now a large number of valuable, high-bred Jersey cattle. It has issued three volumes in one,—the last edition of Pedigrees of "Jersey Cattle in Maine."—This book was noticed in our last month's issue of the MARYLAND FARMER. In every respect it is well arranged and reflects great credit on its compilers. Yet we question, for reasons too obvious for me in this discursive letter to assign, the property and use of such a book confined to the limits of a single state. It seems to me while it is of much interest to owners of Jersey cattle in Maine, it is too limited in extent to be of much practical use to the breeders of this particular stock in other states. A Herd Book it seems to me, should always be of a national character.

HOW CHEESE IS MADE.

While in Winthrop I visited the extensive cheese factory, with Hon. John May, and was introduced to the manager, Mr. Cook, who most kindly showed us over the building and explained the process of cheese making. The factory is a new frame building, 60 by 30 feet, on a hill-side. Every thing about it was neat, clean and seemed convenient. I was informed that the patrons consisted of 112 farmers, who owned about 600 cows, and daily fur,

nished the factory with about 6,700 pounds of milk. These patrons are scattered over a large territory, some living 5 or six miles distant from the factory. Order and convenient arrangement is here apparent.—The building being on a hill-side, the farmer drives to the upper side and without leaving his wagon, has his cans passed in, emptied into a large receiving can, weighed and amount of milk receipted for. The milk in this is immediately drawn off into a large vat near by. This process is repeated as fast as the farmers come with their milk. Thus in a very short time the milk from 600 cows is deposited in the large vat. In the meantime the fire is kindled and the vat warmed until its contents reaches 82 degrees of heat, when the rennet is put in and it remains so for about 45 minutes, when the curd is cut, the heat is then raised up, to say 95 degrees, where it remains some two hours, when the whey is drawn off and the curd taken from the vat, placed on a table with a slat bottom, to allow the escape of whey while it is worked and salted. This done, the curd is put in hoops holding 60 pounds; the shrinkage, from the pressure that is applied to force out the rest of the whey and compact the curd, is about eight per cent. Two lbs. and seven-tenths of a pound of salt is used for 1,000 pounds of milk, and it requires 8 and seven-tenths pounds of milk to make a pound of cheese. We tasted the cheese and found it excellent.

In addition to the large woollen mills, there are other notable industries in the town of Winthrop, among which is one of the largest agricultural implement manufactories in New England; Mr. Wm. E. Whitman is the proprietor, also one of the largest oil-cloth manufactories in the United States is located here, owned and worked by Mr. Charles Bailey, but what challenged mostly my attention was a sample of a great and growing New England Industry, intimately connected with agricul-

ture, the sweet-corn canning factory, styled the Davis, Baxter & Co. Portland Canning Co. This firm operates 26 factories, 9 of them being for corn and the rest for canning lobsters, fish, meats, &c. The corn factories are all located in different townships of Maine. The first one was opened fifteen years ago, at Gorham and been running ever since. The one at Winthrop which we visited, was opened successfully in 1882. For the benefit of those who never have visited a

#### CORN CANNING FACTORY,

we will endeavor to describe what we saw, though the process is more complicated than we imagined, and requires the greatest order, exactness and attention on the part of every employee.

The huskers in groups are found under a large shed outside the building. The husked ears are put in bushel baskets, conveyed to the "cutters," of which there are twelve, each requiring one man to run it. The cutter is an ingenious little machine, by which the kernels are cut from the cob, sending the cob through a spout out of doors.

The cut corn after being put in the cans by the fillers, is accurately weighed, and then the process is simply boiling in hot water for a given time, after which they are taken to iron retorts, shaped like fire-proof safes and subjected to super-heated steam. The cans are perfectly dry when taken from the last process.

The Company each spring contracts with the farmers to grow a certain number of acres of sweet corn of certain varieties, and deliver it at the right time to the factory for a specified amount. The farmers are paid three cents for every twenty-six ounces of green corn cut from the cob, and allowed to take back with them all their shucks and cobs, which being green and succulent, is valuable feed for hogs and other stock. In addition to this, the farmer is, if he requires it, furnished by the



Company with all the seed corn and all the fertilizer necessary for the crop, to be paid for out of the crop when grown. By this system the Company is assured of sufficient material for their work, and the farmer of a sure market at remunerative prices after getting his seed and fertilizer at low figures on credit of the coming crop. Many acres produce from \$50. to \$80. worth of corn to the acre, beside all the fodder, stalks, shucks and cobs.

Mr. B. F. Maxim of Wayne raised, the present season, 740 bushels of sweet corn on three acres of land, making 246 2-3 bushels per acre. This was the largest yield brought in by any one man, and was worth \$223.50.

This seems to be a profitable business all around. The capacity of this factory, in full operation is 25,000 cans daily. I here acknowledge my thanks to Mr. Davis for his courtesy and politeness in showing and posting me with these sights and facts that were to me very interesting.

The great reputation of Winthrop is not alone due to her natural advantages, but to the inventive genius of her people, her fine stock and good farming. Permit me to recall some of her past history. This was the home of John A. and Hiram A. Pitts, inventors and manufacturers of the machines for threshing and cleaning grain at one operation, which are now so well-known through the South and West, one as the "Chicago Pitts;" the other as the "Buffalo Pitts." The two first "Rail-way or Tread Horse Power" was first invented and made here, more than fifty years ago, one by Pitts and the other by my brother Luther Whitman, both of which useful and convenient machines are in use all over the world. The first two-horse Reaping Machine ever invented and manufactured was by my father, Ezra Whitman, nearly sixty years ago. It was also in this town that the able chief director of the New York Experimental Station, Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant, was reared and

educated, who is recognized for his years as one of the ablest scientific agriculturists, now living in this country. Here also lived his father and grand-father. This town was also the early home of the four brothers composing the firm of the "Whitman Agricultural Works" at St. Louis, Mo. This house is well and popularly known throughout the country as one of the largest manufactories of agricultural implements in the great Western country. Men of great note in other fields of fame, claim Winthrop and its vicinity as their birth place and where they received their early education. Such men as the post master general T. O. Howe who commenced the study of law here, and two of the governors of Maine, Huntton and Morrill, resided in what was originally part of Winthrop township, also the famous family of Washburn brothers, noted as members of congress, governors, and one as the minister to France during the war between that country and Germany, were all born and reared in sight of this quiet town. I name these few only as they occur at present to my mind. With her other enterprises at this time, Winthrop can also boast of a sprightly and entertaining newspaper, the "Budget."

Among the attractions of Winthrop is the "Grove" on Maranacook Lake, fitted up elegantly by the Rail Road Co., leading from Portland to Bangor as a grand pic-nic ground, where great assemblages for various purposes are held, and hence has become a celebrated public resort. Speaking of the surroundings of this delightful town, I cannot forbear saying a word about the loveliest spot of all—"Sturtevant Hill." It was here that Dr. Sturtevant, before mentioned, received his early education fitting him for college. Mr. Putnam, a wealthy Boston merchant resides now at the "Hill," near several members of the Sturtevant family, who severally own in this neighborhood, large

and highly improved farms adorned with elegant buildings. From the observatory on Mr. Putnam's splendid mansion, Mount Washington is plainly in view in a clear day, and by aid of a glass the whole country for fifty miles all around lies like a beautiful panorama.

My memory takes me back when forty-three years ago I took the census of Winthrop, and am amazed at the changes time has made, and at the wonderful progress made by enterprise, industry and vim toward the accumulation of wealth, influence and comfort. It was a pleasure, partly melancholy from failing to see many old friends who have left forever, to meet old associates and school companions, and renew half forgotten acquaintance, to receive the kind hospitality and warm welcomes, and re-visit old scenes that called up so many fond memories of the past. This visit to Winthrop will not soon be effaced and I leave the town and its people with regret.

As a last word, I must acknowledge my thanks to Mr. Richardson, (whose house, "The Winthrop House" I made my headquarters,) for unvariable attention, and politeness, which will be accorded, I am sure, by him to every visitor who has the good fortune to "put up" at this first-class hotel. I trust you shall hear from me next at the Maine State Fair, where I start for early tomorrow morning. W.

COL. D. S. CURTISS.—We had lately a pleasant visit from our friend Col. Curtiss, who our readers may remember as one of our Editorial Staff for some years and retired in 1877 from that position, after proving highly acceptable to his readers. We were glad to see the Colonel looking so well, and vigorous, and in the best of spirits.

No matter what may be the name, or how long standing the trouble, Dr. Bensons Skin Cure will always cure skin diseases. Grateful hundreds of cured patients attest this fact. \$1 at Druggists.

## FAIRS.

FREDERICK COUNTY FAIR.— We attended this fair and were highly pleased. The meeting this year was exceptionally an encouraging one and complimentary to the officers of the society. The attendance was uncommonly large and the exhibits in all departments were excellent. Good humor, good cheer and courteous treatment to strangers was the order of the day, and the fair was a success.

HAGERSTOWN, WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR.— This was a grand success. Immense crowds and every department well filled. Superior cattle and a fine exhibition altogether. We were forcibly struck with the unusual attention given by the crowd each day to a close examination of the stock, more so than at any fair we ever attended. It may have been because of the fame of many of the fine animals that were on the ground, but we incline to the opinion that it was owing somewhat to the admirable location of the stalls, made so convenient of access. We mention this as a hint to be improved upon by other societies in their future location of live stock stables. Another new feature worthy of remark and an example to be followed, was a large number of plain benches placed about the grounds for the comfort of visitors who wanted at intervals just such seats for rest. It was a thoughtful provision for comfort and supplied a long neglected want felt at all other such meetings by the leg-weary, or feeble visitor. But this was only one of the many efforts made by the generous management of this society to contribute to the ease and comfort of every visitor, adult or child. Hospitality was unbounded and there seemed a universal disposition to make every stranger feel at home. This course impressed all with the assurance that the Washington County fairs will always be a grand success, because they



leave such pleasant recollections to be taken home by everyone who may have a leisure day to be there, to be instructed and to enjoy life.

There was a large display of improved farm implements and machinery, among which I counted twenty-two steam engines all in motion, also an unusual large number of threshing machines and binders, one of the binders had cut and bound 75 acres of wheat this season and attracted much attention. The house for vegetables was well filled, some of these products were of enormous size, showing the richness of the lands of Washington county. The quantity of butter and cheese was not large but of fine quality. The house-hold department was filled with every article ever seen in an exhibit of this kind, and the three stories of this building were crowded with visitors from morning until night. Of the legion of side shows and "games" which attracted crowds of men and boys, I only visited two. One contained the "twin steers," five years old, weighing 7,300 lbs. to see which was well worth the 10 cents entrance fee. The other side show I patronized, had two oxen, one was represented as weighing 4,000 lbs. but in neither of these two did I see any beauty in shape, form or color.

THANKS.—To Gen. E. B. Tyler for some choice specimens of the "Rochester" tomato from seeds obtained from Sibley of the West. These tomatoes were above medium size and full of sweet close meat, free from core or white pulp.

THE mutton chop from Mr. Rose, the Baltimore famous sheep butcher, were just delicious, from the carcass of a South-down mutton which cut three inches of fat on the ribs.

FROM Mr. Smith, a dozen delicious October open-stone peaches, a new, late variety, large and handsome and very firm in texture.

## Are Agricultural Fairs on the Wane?

We are happy to answer emphatically, no. Last year in alluding to this oft repeated question, we pointed out this great usefulness and increasing popularity, at the same time spoke of some errors into which they had fallen but which the great public look upon as necessary evils, or amusements demanded by a large portion of visitors. Certain it is that this year these fairs have more fully demonstrated their usefulness and importance, and called forth the manifestation of the greater sympathy of the masses than any previous year. They have over the whole country drawn greater crowds and had better exhibits than ever before. It was our good fortune to see for ourselves this great work in several states of the North, and we were also able to be at Frederick and Hagerstown in this State, and were surprised and gratified to see at all, the improved exhibits in all departments and the deep interest taken by the throngs of visitors. Our friend, A. M. Fulford, Esq., reports the same in regard to the Fairs in the West where he has spent some weeks and at those Fairs disposed of all the fine Berkshires he took out with him for exhibition being fifty head! This is a trump card for the success of Western Fairs and great encouragement for all who raise fine stock and put them fairly before the public inspection. In this connection we repeat what is well said in *The Baltimore American*:

"These facts show the stability and usefulness of the fairs. They increase in size and attendance every year, and they are now firmly-established institutions of the state. Their influence for good can scarcely be doubted, as they are the chief means by which to teach scientific and progressive agriculture. The farmer sees how much better modern methods are than his old-fashioned ideas. The proof is direct and convincing. New machinery that economizes labor and new ways that produce

better crops are shown him, and he is more or less influenced by them. The managers are spending more time and money every year in the exhibitions, and their efforts meet with material appreciation from the people. The fairs are a great instrument of good, and they should be patronized and sustained."

For the Maryland Farmer.

### On the Wing.

#### NEW BEDFORD, MASS. AND VICINITY.

New Bedford, the southern shire city of Mass., is situated on the western side of Acushnet river, one of the principal northern inlets of Buzzards bay.

The city is built chiefly on the rising sun slope of a ridge of land running north and south, and extending more than two miles on the river line. The land was originally occupied by the Acushnet tribe of Indians and was discovered by Bartholomew Gosnold about 1602, but it was considerably later before much of a settlement was effected. While the soil in the immediate vicinity of the city at present time, especially on the shores of the river, is fertile and well adapted to farming operations, the most casual observer will discover that further back no great attractions were offered for engaging in agricultural pursuits. The attention of the settler was turned to other and more lucrative pursuits, and so, the business history of New Bedford furnishes an example in which the whole fishery was the Hamlet of the play, and was established as long ago as the year 1765. In proportion to its population New Bedford is a city of greater wealth than many of the cities of the Union. About 1850 manufacturing in a variety of different lines was commenced, and been increased ever since.

Beautiful in situation, the city is beautifully laid out in regular squares presenting no intricate mazes or tangles to bewilder a stranger. Except in the mere business portion of the city there is a wealth of space that is appropriated to both economical and esthetic purposes.

New Bedford may be said to be a city of trees, both for ornament and utility. Besides a proper proportion of shade trees, the spacious yards or lawns are well filled with fruit trees of various kinds, so that,

in many places, the city presents the appearance of an extensive orchard. But trees are not all that go to beautify the city, since in those portions away from the mere active business streets, the lawns are supplied with flowers of all kinds beautifully arranged in artistic forms. The streets too are kept neat and clean, and with a fair supply of beautiful buildings, both of a private and public character, the city becomes one of interest and from the healthy location a very desirable resort. Like all cities it has its pleasure drives, the chief of which is to the south upon a neck of land formed by Clarks cave and called Clark's point. Around this extends French avenue a macadamized road, skirting the entire front and having the ocean constantly in view. In making this drive the almshouse and fort are passed, the former of which is an extensive structure with pleasing surroundings that give indication of a thoughtful regard of the city for the destitute. On Clark's point are some well kept farms, which judging from their appearance are in a high state of fertility. On the opposite side of the river is Fair Haven, Fort Phoenix and Scinset Neck, along which are finely cultivated farms which are in pleasant contrast with the section of country, to the north and west of New Bedford especially on the line of rail-road from New Bedford to Providence. On the Old Colony R. R. for many miles the country is level and but little cultivated. The surface is covered with a growth of small trees and does not give evidence of a great degree of native fertility, and yet with proper development it is by no means improbable that the entire section might be turned to profitable agricultural use. But this will hardly be done until there is an actual demand for more land for tillable purposes.

The great trouble with New England farming in the past, and which is not yet entirely overcome, is the attempt to cultivate more acres than can be done in a proper and profitable manner.

A few typographical errors occurred in our last which should be corrected. Woods Holl should be substituted for Woods Hall and Cottage City for College City.

We may speak of Cottage City in our next.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.  
Columbia, Conn.



## THE DAIRY.

**FILTHY STABLES.**—There is possibly no more repulsive sight than a cow stable, and one in which dirty cattle are housed is especially offensive. It has been demonstrated that cows neglected in this respect fail to yield a perfect flow of milk, and it is reasonable to suppose that such is the case. The richest of food may be given to them, but if condition in the stalls is neglected they will not thrive. The food odor of a filthy stable must necessarily permeate not only the animal's hide, but it has been proved that the meat of stall-fed steers, fattened under these circumstances is unwholesome; moreover, the milk, even during the period of milking, is liable to absorb the filthy emanations from such stables and to become absolutely poisonous. It would seem, therefore, reasonable that owners and dealers in cattle and milk should appreciate the importance of cleanliness and its relation to health, even as a source to profit."—*Sanitarian*.

**CLOUTED CREAM** is made by heating the milk to 180 degrés, and then setting it in the usual way for the cream to rise. As is well-known, the cream comes up very thick. This cream is very easily churned by merely beating it in a bowl, when it makes a delicately flavored butter, which will not keep more than a few days. Few persons who write upon dairy matters seem to have a right idea of the cause of this thickening of the cream, and the peculiar quality and character of the butter made from it. These depend wholly upon the fact that the albumen in the milk is coagulated by the heat and rises to the top with the cream, and so adds to its bulk as well as to its solidity. This albumen gives the peculiar flavor to the butter as well as prevents it from keeping.—*The Dairy*.

**BRAN** as it is now made consists almost wholly of the husk of the grain, and is rich in oil and in phosphates. But it is not so good a feed as when the inner husk of the grain is mixed with it. This is sometimes called shorts and sometimes coarse middlings. This mixed with the bran makes an excellent food, as it contains gluten and starch. For dairy cows it is the best of all feeds for producing milk, but for

butter it is better to mix a third part of corn meal or cotton seed meal or both with the bran and middlings. A moderate ration of this mixed feed is three pounds daily; a full ration is six or eight pounds. It will pay to use this even for cows on pasture when rich milk is desired, as it largely increases the quantity of cream in the milk. It may be fed to the cows dry, or may be given to them with some short grass or clover, moistened a little, so that the meal cannot be swallowed without adequate mastication.—*The Dairy*.

**THE CENTRIFUGAL CREAM SEPARATOR** is the coming improvement in the dairy. By and by the milk will be creamed as soon as it is sufficiently cooled, and the sweet cream churned and made into good butter. All the talk and disputing about sweet cream *vs.* sour cream, is simply due to our want of knowledge of how to make good sweet cream butter. No doubt this is the sweetest and most delicious of all kinds, but it is necessary to use it fresh. And why should it not be used? Many years ago it was customary to churn the night and morning milk mixed all together, without setting it for cream. It was in this way that the fine butter given by the early Shorthorn cows in the north of England was churned, and the Kendall (Cumberland, England) butter sent in pound prints to the London market was of the very best quality. With the facilities for communication that we now possess, there is no more reason why butter should "be kept" than there is that our mutton or our game should "be kept," until its odor pervaded not only the house, but the coming guest could smell his dinner a mile off, as was once the fashion.—*The Dairy*.

**THE MARYLAND FARMER** for October is at hand and has an interesting table of contents. It is always a welcome visitor to our table of exchanges, and we would like to know that it was read by every farmer in Hancock and adjoining counties. The subscription price is only one dollar a year, making it one of the cheapest as well as one of the best agricultural periodicals of the day. Address, Maryland Farmer, Baltimore, Md.—*The Ishmaelite, Sparta, Ga.*

**INFLAMMATORY RHEUMATISM**, that Physicians failed to relieve, cured by the use of Stonebraker's Liniment: so says Mr. Osbourn Straling, Wallville, Md.

## POULTRY HOUSE.

H. F. Whitman's Jacobin Aviries  
At Baltimore, Md.

[It gives us pleasure to offer to our readers a correct cut of the neat, convenient, well arranged and properly kept Pigeon Loft of our friend Mr. H. F. Whitman, which is so well described by Mr. Caughey in the Poultry Monthly, from which excellent poultry journal we take the above. Mr. Whitman confines himself exclusively to breeding the beautiful "Jacobins," of which, he has superior specimens, obtained without regard to cost.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

"Having promised you sketches and a description of the coops of Mr. Whitman, I shall endeavor to give a brief description of the breeding loft and dimensions of the buildings, as near as possible, and trust it will be of value to your readers. The sketch of front view, represented in Fig. 1, is of the entire coops, which is the original design of the owner. The entire length is 59 feet; height of the buildings, 9 feet. The building to your left is the main breeding coop, where nothing but the old breeding birds are kept. To the right is the aviary, consisting of a slatted compartment or open flight, 31 feet in length, divided in the centre, keeping the old birds separate from the odd birds and the young stock, which is of great benefit to the fancier. The building at the extreme right is the young birds' compartment and also where the odd unmated ones are kept. It is 10 feet wide, 8 feet high, 8 feet deep, and contains nothing but roosts for the birds. Fig. 2 shows the interior of the breeding coop represented in Fig. 1, at the extreme left. It is the best model that I have yet seen for comfort and general health of the birds when hatching. The boxes in which the birds are permitted for breeding are 14 inches square, containing an earthen nest bowl, each pair having two boxes during hatching. You will perceive that each compartment is numbered and are opposite, as, for instance, if a pair be hatching in nest No. 3, they control also the one across, which also bears the same number, and by this arrangement one pair can have young in one nest and the hen can sit on eggs in the other, keeping the half-grown birds

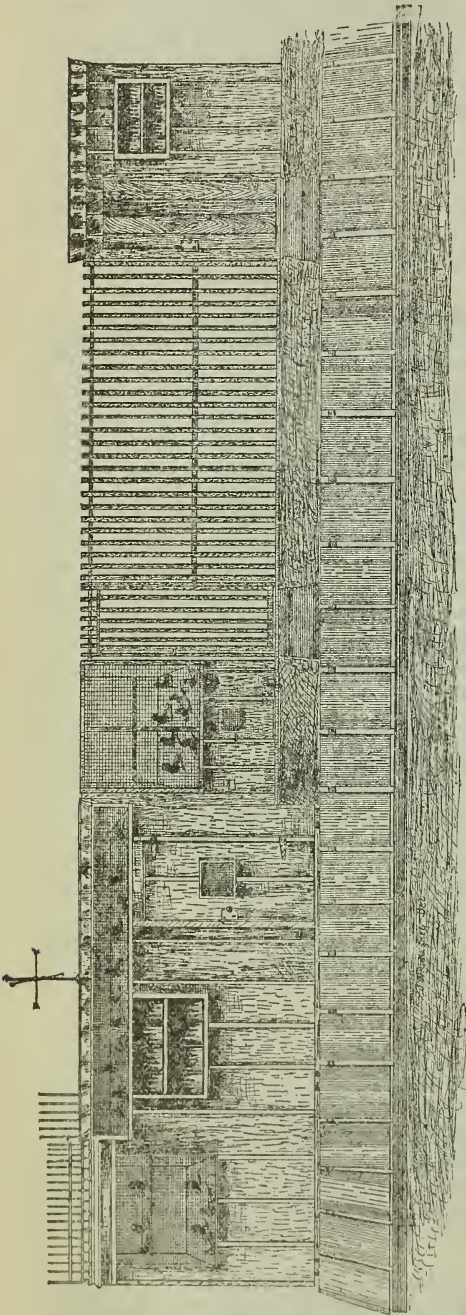


Fig. 1



from tormenting the hen for food. Mr. Whitman's tancy is the Jacobin. He has ninety-seven birds; of these twenty-eight are old, and the balance, sixty-nine are young birds raised this season. As he yet has another month to breed, he will probably raise a hundred young birds, and all out of these fourteen pairs.

It would occupy too much of your valuable space to give a detailed account of each good bird I saw, so I will only mention a few of the best ones. He has a pair of imported blacks, the cock of which is the best I ever saw; it is grand in hood, mane and chain. As the Jacobin is a bird that is being

improved on every year, it is hard to say that this one will win next season, but I do not hesitate to say that it will beat anything shown last year; the hen, also, is a grand, long-feathered bird, but has a black beak, which spoils her face somewhat. These birds are crossed with a pair of his old blacks, beautiful in color, and out of them he has six fine young blacks, very long-feathered, and one fine dun. In whites I saw two long feathered cocks, one of which has a splendid head, down-face and elegant carriage; the other is not so good in head and beak, but has the best hood, mane and chain. The hens of these two are very good in feather. I saw three pairs of excellent reds, but their young are not so good. In yellows the young are better than the parents, having very fine, close-fitting hoods.

Mr. Whitman attributes his success in raising young birds to the fact that they live out in the runs about all the time, and get the fresh air, sun and plenty of fresh loam and gravel to pick in. He cleans the lofts every morning, and therefore knows nothing of vermin or sickness.

J. W. CAUGHEY."

### Catalogues Received.

Peter Henderson's & Co's. Catalogue for 1883, 35 and 37 Cortland St., N. Y.

Franklin Davis & Co., Baltimore and Richmond nurseries. Fruit trees, vines and plants.

John Saul, Washington, D. C. Trees, roses, shrubs and green-house plants, &c.

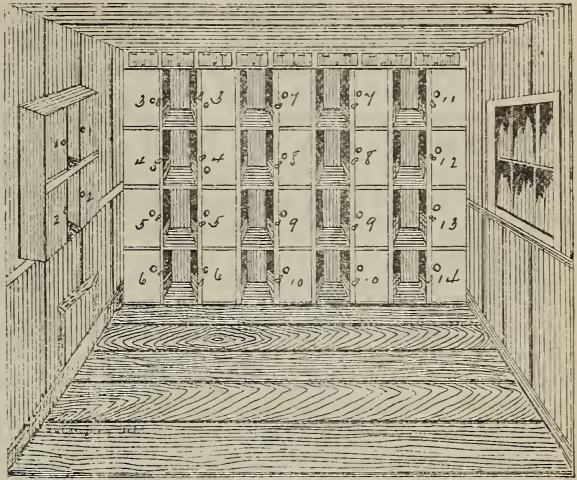


Fig. 2.

### Publications Received.

FROM N. W. Ayer & Son, Newspaper Advertising Agents Philadelphia, their elegant "American Newspaper Annual," for 1883. This book is well and carefully prepared, elegantly and conveniently arranged and printed. It is a valuable aid to all news paper men, and to advertisers of every class. It seems to be very accurate as to its statistics and descriptions of the various counties, as far as we are acquainted from personal knowledge or from reading. It contains a vast amount of useful information within its over 900 pages of closely printed matter.

FROM the U. S. Department, the interesting and valuable Consular Reports on Commerce, Manufactures, &c., for 1883.

FROM Fowler & Wells, 753 Broadway, N. Y. "HORSES: THEIR FEED AND FEET." Price, 50 cents, paper cover. This book is chiefly the production of Dr. Page, a regular physician, a close observer and an author on kindred subjects. It is written plainly for the comprehension of all. It is useful for the veteran and the novice.

The work discusses very fully the best means of putting horses in "condition" and keeping them so. The relation of feed to work, the best kinds of feed, when and how to feed with the best results, including the care of work horses and road horses. The causes of the various diseases to which he is subject, with methods of treatment are given. In part second, Sir Geo. W. Cox discusses the common practice of shoeing from a point of view of the objector and

makes a good argument, and Col. M.C. Weld, who is well-known authority, follows with a second argument in the same line, insisting with much force, that shoeing is unnatural and injurious. There is also an illustrated chapter on the signs of character and the training of horses. It is safe to say, that to horse owners this book will prove almost invaluable, and no better use could be made of the amount of money required than to send for this book.

[See advertisement in this number. This valuable little work is also offered by us the next year as a premium.—Eds. MD. FAR.]

TWO ADMIRABLE ESSAYS of Wm C. Barry of Rochester, N. Y., one on "New and Rare Fruits of 1882," and the other on "New and Noteworthy Trees and Conifers, 1883."

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS from the Department of Agriculture, is a book full of late investigations by the Department and of great value to the stock growers as well as to all who are interested in the health of domestic animals.

#### Crop Reports for October.

The October report for the Department of Agriculture, fully sustains the telegraphic summary of Sept. 10 relative to injuries by frosts. The general average of condition for the entire field is 78, six points less than on Sept. 1, four from frosts in the north and two from drought on the Atlantic seaboard and south of the frosted areas. It is five points below the October average of 1882, while there is four per cent. increase in area. It is twenty-one points lower than the October average of the census crop. The product of the year will be close to 1,600,000,000 bushels, with more soft corn than last year, mostly in regions that consume their entire crop.

The returns of yield of wheat per acre indicate a production about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre less than the crop of last year. While a revision of the records of the season may cause slight local changes, it is certain that the final average of yield will not differ much from 11.3 bushels per acre. The aggregate will exceed 400,000,000 bushels and may reach 420,000,000. The quality is not up to an average.

The yield of oats is a full average of a series of years, or about twenty-eight bushels to the acre for the whole country. The crop will aggregate about 500,000,000 bushels. The quality is high.

The barley crop will average between one and two bushels per acre more than last year, approximating 50,000,000.

The potato crop is in better condition than in any year since 1875. The average is 93.

The tobacco crop will be below an average in yield. This general average of condition is 82.

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

### Chats with the Ladies for November.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

#### The Dirge of the Leaves.

"Dead or dying,  
Our funeral song the winds are sighing!  
Dying or dead,  
The rain-sodden earth is our chilly bed!"

When summer days were long,  
The warm air quivered and thrilled with song;  
In full green life we waved to the wind,  
Now withered and red we are left behind.

All dying or dead,  
Our farewell is said,  
And we flutter to earth and rot into mould,  
Or pave the dark glades with fretwork of gold.

Our death is but change;  
Through paths new and strange,  
The force that is in us works on to its goal;  
For in us, as in all things moveth a soul  
Which dies not, but lives,  
And ceaselessly gives  
The life-breath of being to that which was dead,  
Till the violet springs where the leaves were shed."

Let us remember at this season, that the autumn leaves are types of human life, green and bright for a time and then fall to our common-parent earth, as the frost of age appears. Most men and sentimental poets, look upon November as "melancholy days," but to me it has a charm that no other month possesses. November days are those in which summer lingeringly bids us farewell and consigns us to the doubtful mercies of rude winter, in the hope that we will welcome her warm fruitage next year.

As the evenings begin to lengthen, every family should make it a rule to improve the long hours of each night, by instruction, by reading and entertaining yet useful conversation, within the family circle around the hearth made cheerful by the bright fire. At least one hour should be devoted to reading, by one, who should alternate with the others, while the rest might be occupied in plain or ornamental sewing. There are now many sorts of stitchery and other pretty employments for women and girls that command high prices, and by practicing which ladies in the loftiest walks of life earn competent livelihoods. How self-complacently proud is the girl who is



dressed elegantly from the fruits of her own industry! How commendable is that pride! Her parents, brothers and lovers are justly proud of her domestic, industrious achievement.

During the fine weather of this month, when the Indian summer comes, neglect not all the exercise out of doors, that can be enjoyed in rambles over hills, dales, and in woods and fields, gathering bright colored leaves, green ferns, nuts, and contemplating the provisions God's humble creatures are sedulously making for their winter's support.

When the weather forbids exercise out-side the house, it should be for hours resorted to indoors. Dumb-bells, battle-door and shuttle cock, such gymnastics as are suitable to domestic life, and among them I am such an old fogey as to name house cleaning, sweeping, bread-making, &c. To all my lady friends I commend reading, and to their thoughtful reflection the following sound words of the great medical journal, the "Lancet," :

"Muscular exercise wisely regulated and apportioned to the bodily strength is felt to be a part of education. Sense culture, by appropriate exercises in seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, would, if commenced sufficiently early in life, not merely prevent weakness of sight, deafness, loss of the sense of feeling, and impairment of the sense of smell, long before old age, but by its reflected influence on the nutrition of the brain, and upper portion of the spinal cord would do much to reduce the growing tendency to paralytic diseases, which are very decidedly on the increase."

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### Beware of Cruel Words.

How one discordant note will spoil,  
A sweet, melodious song,  
And vibrate on a quick, fine ear,  
Most painfully and long.

Just so, a single careless word,  
Thrown out, perhaps, in jest,  
Will wound a tender, feeling heart,  
With grief and care oppressed.

They fearful, sad impressions make,  
On nature's loving, mild,  
And crush the spirits, dim the age,  
Of many a little child.

On those who use them, they rebound,  
Sometimes with double power,  
When conscience wakes and passion-clouds  
Obscure not reason's hour.

Ye who are tempted, struggle hard,  
To conquer tongue and hart;  
New strength thou'lt find each night and morn.  
To others joy impart.—*M. G. H. of Winthrop, Me.*

[We welcome to the Ladies Department, "M. G. H.,"—the talented authoress of the above lines. She was in the olden time our school-mate, hence we tender her a warmer welcome to our pleasant coterie.—W.]

## LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

### Why Southdowns?

The size, activity, and hardiness of these sheep specially fit them for short, rough pastures, on which they will thrive fairly where larger sheep would scarcely keep alive. They do better on the great Western plains than other mutton sheep, as they are more industrious in digging under the snow for grass in winter, and thrive the best of all breeds, West or East, on arid or rocky pastures. While thus exposed they are less liable to disease than any other breed, save the tough Merino, and can be kept in large flocks. The Southdown buck, crossed with common ewes, makes a great improvement in the offspring of their dams, and the mutton finds much quicker sale at higher prices than the common sorts. A first cross by long-wooled rams on lean grade Merino ewes may be preferable, in order to give more fat; but it is best to cross ewes thus produced with Southdown rams, to ensure a larger proportion of juicy, savory flesh. Yet, on the larger common ewes, and especially those tintured with long-wooled blood, the Southdown male cross is decidedly superior.

The Southdown fleece is abundant, of medium fineness, and preferable to any other for certain kinds of matter. The wool, therefore, sells quickly and at fair prices; but while the wool contributes largely to the profit, mutton is the great thing with these sheep. Early lambs can be more easily obtained from Southdown ewes than from any other, and these bring high prices from March to June. Though more difficult and expensive to produce such lambs at the North during these months, at the south it may be cheaply and easily done, and be a source of wealth to those who judiciously breed and rear them for Northern markets.—MR. A. B. ALLEN, in the *American Agriculturist* for October.

A VALUABLE COW.—A thoroughbred Jersey cow, owned by Valancey E. Fuller, of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and registered as Mary Anne of St. Lambert, (9,770,) is undergoing a butter test for one year, and has completed the fourth month and an additional day, with the unparalleled yield of 417 pounds 2½ ounces of

butter, which is salted only one ounce to the pound. Two weeks of this test were verified by a committee of the Canadian Jersey Breeders' Association. The last week of the test the cow yielded 27 pounds 9 $\frac{3}{4}$  ounces of butter. Statistics give the average yield of dairy cows during the grass season at a about one pound of butter a day, and a cow that gives two pounds a day is regarded as very superior. This test is the subject of lively interest among breeders, as it promises to show a yield greater than that of the cow Eurotas, (2,454,) that gave 778 pounds 1 ounce and bore a calf within the year, which is the best score of the kind on record. The two cows are closely related in blood.

**DOGS AND SHEEP BELLS.**—An experienced breeder of sheep says, that a number of sheep in any flock wearing bells will keep away dogs. He allows ten bell sheep to every hundred. When sheep are alarmed, they run together in a compact body, and the ringing of all the bells frightens the dogs. In Great Britain and Ireland bells are used by almost every owner of sheep. They are useful for keeping off dogs and foxes, the latter being very destructive to lambs in places where this precaution is not taken.—*American Farmer, Fort Wayne, Ind.*

#### Veterinary Surgeons.

Hundreds of thousands of cattle, horses, swine and sheep are sacrificed yearly for want of competent medical attendance. There is ample room in the country for 10,000 veterinary surgeons. That would give an average of 1,000 horses and 4,000 cattle to each one, not to speak of the swine, sheep and dogs, which are always needing medical care. To support these in comfort would require about \$20,000,000 annually, or about \$4 for each owner of a farm, or about \$2. for each person owning animals that require occasional treatment. It would pay well if the owners of animals should each adopt a system common in France of employing a surgeon at a small annual sum, to visit and care for his stock regularly, to advise in regard to their condition and treatment, and to suggest proper sanitary precautions. This would prevent nearly all the losses which now occur, and which undoubtedly

amount yearly to \$50,000,000, and would save at least an equal amount in losses of service by sickness of the animals. There is, indeed, a great need of veterinary surgeons, and young men having a leaning that way might do well to follow it.—*The Dairy.*

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### Live Stock in Health and Disease.

BY DR. ROBERT WARD, F. R. C. V. S., STATE VETERINARIAN OF MARYLAND.

##### DAIRY COWS.

Having dwelt upon the food, exercise, and sanitary condition of the byres and yards, I now wish to point out other important items necessary to the well-being of the dairy cow. Breeding in-and-in has, for many years, been recognized as a fertile source of abortion. Yet even now in country villages the sire is frequently nearly related to the dairy stock of the district, and even the *work* the sire has to perform is rarely considered a matter of much importance. Now, the healthy condition of both parents is of much moment, for it is found that certain affections are conveyed from parent to offspring, terminating in death of the foetus in embryo. It is a fact that when once a cow has aborted, she is liable to do so again; and although a farmer may say "it will clear my favourite-bred cow from her affection," still the sequel is as bad, if not worse than the disease.

Sudden alarm or fright frequently causes a cow to abort, and I remember several instances of this occurring in a field through which there was a public path. Strange unruly dogs chased the cows, to the great amusement of the dog's owner, little thinking of the sad consequences so likely to follow; and the owner of the cows quite ignorant of the fact until several cows had slipped.

The veterinary medical profession arrange the causes of abortion under two heads, namely, accidental causes, which are termed sporadic and infectious causes, which are termed epizootic, and it is an accredited fact that cows do abort in certain localities, and under all circumstances of preventative influence, I know this to be the case on particular farms, and am com-



pelled to content myself with the fact that the cows have slipped their calves from some atmospherical influence; but of the nature of the element or elements, be this simple or compound, I am unable to determine. Yet the subject has for years engaged the attention of many clear thinking men, both at home and abroad. To enter into detail on this subject would be considered out of place, perhaps, in your *Journal*. However, I may remark that authorities on the Continent have determined this infection to be due to the presence of a fungus, which has been demonstrated on the mucous membranes; and that if this fungus be applied to the generative organs of a pregnant cow, abortion follows. Whilst some authorities assert that the infective something finds access to the system by mouth, that is, with the food; others assert that the access is by the vagina to the uterus. Be this as it may, there is an infective, and as with other infectives, we have not, up to this present time, been able to manipulate them for investigation, and, although we may discover the result of the infective something, still we cannot determine its form on entry into the animal economy, for doubtless it undergoes metamorphosis. The fungus may develop *Bacteria*, *Microphytis*, *Micrococci*, &c., but this is the result of change in development. But, after all, the important duty imposed on the owner of live stock is, to carry out measures which will suppress the virulent element by destroying its infective character and rendering it inert. To achieve this the services of a vet, soundly versed in sanitary laws and science is needed, that the business may be effectually performed; and when an outbreak does occur, this duty cannot be too expeditiously performed. Chlorinated lime, carbolic powder, &c., are all very well as ordinary disinfectants, but in such cases as this, extraordinary ones are demanded. Fumigation is the mode, and the most effectual is that of sulphurous acid gas, which is both potent and inexpensive. Of course, the animals must be removed, and they should be submitted to prophylactic treatment also before returning to the byre.

I have always made it a rule to carry out the disinfecting odor myself, for experience has proved to me that, however earnest the owner may be, the result of the disinfection has frequently been unsatisfactory, because

it has not been effectually performed. The chloride of lime and carbolic acid play their parts as adjuncts to fumigation, and complete the business with lime-whiting. When these instructions are minutely carried out, suppression invariably follows, and I cannot too strongly impress on the minds of my readers the advantage to be derived from promptitude of action as soon as a cow aborts without a conspicuous cause.

ROBERT WARD, F. R. C. V. S.

### Montgomery County Fair.

The 13th Annual Fair of this county opened at Rockville on the 24th of October, but the weather was so cold and rainy that the machinery was not put in operation until the next day, which proved clear, and pleasant, and the Fair was in full blast with a large attendance. It has been several years since I was here, and had almost forgotten the appearance of the grounds which contain some 30 acres. In looking from the height, down and over the area, it looks as if nature had purposely arranged it for a Fair ground. I have never seen so beautiful a spot for such a purpose. With the exception of the inside of the track, the whole place is covered with stately forest-trees. The grand stand is the largest I ever saw at any race course on fair ground. It must be at least 600 feet long and 40 feet wide. At any point within this immense stand the horses can be seen around the entire track. There is no extra charge to this stand, and it needs no roof as it is shaded by the high trees growing upon the hill.

I spent only a few hours but had the pleasure to meet all the present Officers of this Society, and many of the former Officers, among whom were several old friends, which made the visit extremely pleasant to me.

Accepting an invitation from Ex-president, J. Hall, Esq. to lunch with him, we started but were stopt at the carriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses Griffith, and so urgently

pressed to stop and lunch there, that we did so. The nice ham, fried chicken, white rolls, cake, &c., gave us a feast to be remembered. After Acknowledging my thanks for so much kind attention; I passed along the whole line of vehicles and was satisfied that the Montgomery people did not come there to starve, as each carriage seemed to be loaded down with the good things of this world to satisfy the appetite. The whole affair was highly commendable and had every prospect of being a very successful meeting. As we are going to press, it being near the end of the month I must be brief, but cannot refrain from a word of advice to the Managers. Hold your Fairs earlier in the season. With such a lovely grove, in which the stock as well as visitors are in so dense a shade, Fairs might with great propriety be held in August or early in September, when they would be enjoyed like a trip to the mountains, or attending a few days camp-meeting in the woods. W.

#### Maryland Agricultural College.

Mr. Smith the President of the Agricultural College called lately at our office, and we were glad to hear of the valuable improvements that have been made and are making at this institution. The Baltimore American of the 25th of October says:

"The Maryland Agricultural College, under the excellent management of President Smith, is rapidly advancing, and has every sign of a bright and prosperous future. The number of students is now double the number within its hall at this time last year. Very extensive improvements have been made, and the buildings are now peculiarly suited to the needs of such an institution. President Smith is confident that in another year the college will be filled to its utmost capacity. Such an institution, if well managed, cannot fail to be of great value to the agricultural interests of this state. THE AMERICAN had occasion a short time since to speak of the institution, and the number of students then given referred to last year, and not this."

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